

Demonstration of Autonomous Rendezvous Technology (DART)

Case Study Transcript

Historical
Implementation Context
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Now let's take note of the 300 issues (called RIDs) identified at the Critical Design Review. 300 RIDs means there is a lot of risk that needs to be addressed –

This is the point where management risk posture begins to shift

The Agency is reeling after loss of Columbia

There are clearly efforts going forward to drive down risk by conducting more system level and component testing.

Nonetheless one wonders - can a Class D (high risk – low cost) mission be transformed into a low risk – higher cost mission simply through the addition of more testing?

- Was the review thorough enough to uncover all possible latent defects in a low cost development activity?
- Will enough testing and the right kind of testing be added in order develop confidence that DART will have a high likelihood of mission success?
- Is the DART project team staffed adequately to integrate and manage an expanded test program?